

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-16 are currently pending. Claims 1, 8, 15 and 16 are independent. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner maintains the prior Office Action's rejection of claims 1-16, which were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,393,412 to Deep, hereinafter referred to as Deep.

Applicants incorporate herein the response filed May 25, 2005 in reply to the Office Action dated February 24, 2005. However, in order to pass the present patent application speedily to issue, Applicants amend claims to further clarify the invention.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“A terminal apparatus setting method...

connecting a terminal apparatus to a setting server which is provided for registering with one or more Internet service providers associated with said setting server before said terminal apparatus is coupled to anyone of said one or more Internet service providers;

....
whereby said terminal apparatus is free from having installed therein, prior to being connected to said setting server, information associated with and needed for selecting from and registering to said one or more Internet service providers.”
(emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,393,412 to Deep relates to a method for allowing a user to access a plurality of service providers through a service brokerage via the Internet. The service brokerage establishes accounts with the service providers and the user. Once a user logs in to the service brokerage, the user is presented with a set of private service provider chat rooms that are on on-line. The set can be chosen based upon a predetermined criterion. Once the user selects a chat room of a chosen provider, the service provider allows the user access to that service provider's chat room. A user profile may be provided to the service provider to aid in the admission process.

Applicants submit that Deep does not teach or suggest connecting a terminal apparatus to a setting server which is provided for registering with one or more Internet service providers associated with the setting server before the terminal apparatus is coupled to anyone of the one or more Internet service providers; whereby the terminal apparatus is free from having installed therein, prior to being connected to the setting server, information associated with and needed for selecting from and registering to the one or more Internet service providers, all as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, amended independent claims 8, 15 and 16 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 8, 15 and 16 are patentable.

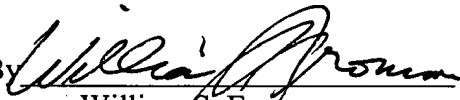
CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By 
William S. Frommer
Reg. No. 25,506
(212) 588-0800